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viennacontemporary

Press Information

Vienna, 25 September 2016

**The foundations are laid, the bridges are built.  
viennacontemporary closes with 28,316 visitors.**

*“Vienna is finally at the center of attention of the international art scene. We have never received so much positive resonance from our international guests and domestic art collectors as we did this year. Not just viennacontemporary in the Marx Halle but also the many cooperations with the city’s art institutions initiated through our activities reflect that we correctly identified the potential in the Viennese art scene and have made a substantial contribution to it,”* says **Dmitry Yu. Aksenov**, board chairman of viennacontemporary, about the successful conclusion of Vienna’s contemporary art fair on Sunday, 25 September 2016.

Martin Janda (Galerie Martin Janda, Vienna) sold an artwork by Nilbar Güreş and a large-scale piece by Adriana Czernin, among others, to international collections. Hubert Winter (Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna) surrendered a number of works by Judith Fegerl to a Viennese collection along with a work by Helga Philipp to a collector from Venezuela. In addition to six works by Vasilena Gankovska and paper works by Gunter Damisch, Galerie Hilger sold all works by Assunta A.A.M. at their booth. The solo exhibition of Renate Bertlmann paid off for Galerie Steinek – photographic works and drawings went to Austrian galleries.

*“I haven’t come to Vienna for several years, but after the success at viennacontemporary, especially with the art of Ansuy Blom and Andy Holden, I definitely plan to return,”* Hidde van Seggelen summarizes his experiences at the fair.

*“We made a conscious decision for two contrasting presentations: a solo booth with delicate wire sculptures by Constantin Luser in a reduced white cube context in ZONE1 and a group presentation with seven Berlin-based painters who all dealt with the same subject. This juxtaposition was only possible given the special settings of the booth arrangement. One hopes for situations like this more often,”* says Markus Peichl (Galerie Crone, Berlin/Wien), satisfied with his successful presentations, which also resulted in corresponding sales: six sculptures by Constantin Luser, eight works by Emmanuel Bornstein, and other works by Norbert Bisky, Clemens Krauss, and Carsten Fock.

Other solo presentations by young Austrian artists in ZONE1 – supported by the Austrian Federal Chancellery – were also popular among visitors. Galerie Agnes Reinthaler presented the young photographer Ulrike Königshofer, who was awarded the 5000 euro Artproof Grant for photo production and, moreover, also attracted international collectors with her photo series. Galerie bäckerstrasse4 sold four pieces from their presentation of Benjamin Eichhorn, and Galerie Michaela Stock was ranked in the top list of best booths at the fair by international media.

viennacontemporary was a complete success for Ani Mólnar (Mólnar Ani Galéria, Budapest): *“We could make sales from the first moment of the vernissage on and received positive feedback about our booth design, both from collectors and curators. viennacontemporary is particularly important for us as it is the most prominent international art fair in the proximity of Budapest. For this reason, we also organized a trip to the fair for a group of collectors so they could become acquainted with the galleries and art from the West and the East.”*

Galerie ŽAK | BRANICKA made the right decision with a presentation of works by Marlena Kudlicka in the framework of the special Solo Expanded showcase curated by Abaseh Mirvali. All works at the booth changed hands – for instance, with art collector Timo Miettinen from Finland and a private collection from Taiwan. Galerie Hammelehle und Ahrens (Cologne) handed over two large-scale pictures by Matthias Schaufler to private collectors from abroad; Galerie Bernd Kugler had good fortunes with interested buyers for works by René Luckhardt. Works by Cosima von Bonin, Hans Weigand, and Michael Riedel left the booth of Gabriele Senn Galerie to national and international art collections. Likewise, Galerie Krinzinger also found national and international destinations for the artworks of Martha Jungwirth, Franz Graf, Hans Op de Beek, Secundino Hernández, Rui Ferreira, and Janne Räsänen; Galerie nächst St. Stephan was pleased with the positive response to the presentation of Manfred Pernice and Jimena Mendoza at Solo Expanded and with sales which delivered a work by Heinrich Dunst to a Viennese collection and a larger project by Imi Knoebel to an international art collection. Galleri Bo Bjerggaard from Copenhagen, which exhibited for the first time in Vienna in the framework of the special showcase Nordic Highlights, was pleased with satisfactory sales but, above all, with the many new contacts with art collectors and praised the positive atmosphere at viennacontemporary.

*“We began with a narrow pathway, now the bridges are built and ready for exchanges with the art scenes of the East and West. This year we had more galleries, an even more comprehensive program, extra special showcases, and more visitors who really enjoyed viennacontemporary 2016 – and many who also enriched their collections with new purchases. I’m already looking forward to the next edition of the fair from 21 to 24 September 2017,”* states **Christina Steinbrecher-Pfandt**, artistic director of viennacontemporary, enthusiastically about the success of Austria’s largest art fair.

**Sponsors and partners of viennacontemporary 2016:**

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**viennacontemporary**

**22–25 September 2016**

**Marx Halle Vienna**

**Karl-Farkas-Gasse 19, 1030 Vienna**

**Information:**

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**viennacontemporary 2017**

21–24 September 2017